

Northern Rockies Dispatcher Workshop
March 8-10, 2011
Northern Rockies Training Center

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**MARCH 8, 2010**

**0800 Introductions and Logistics ~ Kit Kemsley**

**0830 NRCG Board Welcome and Updates ~ Bob Gilman**

- Changing Times ~ filling positions behind Kathy and Gary has met some challenges. NRCC may be looking for detailers during the fire season. Future in Teams ~ NR is working on a response, Mark is representing NR dispatchers. You may see shorter Teams. Various new lists. No more “easy button.” Dispatchers will be critical in filling orders as the need changes.
- 3 long years without a big fire season....Ask yourself, are we ready?
- Great Northern Fire Crew ~ Sponsored by the FS Regional Office, used as a recruitment tool to get inexperienced firefighters time on a fire. Crew members have 2 year limitations. Available to all R1 Forests. Currently hosted by the Flathead NF.
  - Dispatched out of the local dispatch. If you have them, use them! If they are doing project work on your forest and you need them on a fire, order them from your local dispatch!
- Asst Center Manager position ~ announcement closed. Interviews next couple of weeks. Selection end of March. Potentially in place by end of April. Detailer may be needed.

**0850 IT Update ~ Tyler Hackney**

**WildCAD/Network Attached Storage Servers (NAS)**

- Current Purchase Status ~ Lori Jakubowski Customer Service Rep for fire nationally for FS. Approval to purchase the rest of the sites for the region expected in the next two weeks. Tyler will work with each Center to have all the sites purchased and installed by the fire season.
- First 3 sites installed (Missoula, Kalispell, Great Falls) ~ Lessons learned: Install went smooth (3-6 hours) Ticket process is the most time consuming aspect; working with HelpDesk to have everything in place before the install. It is likely that Dispatch Centers will be responsible for assuring everything is in place for the install.
- Site Coordination
  - Designate two Local Site Admins. (one primary) that will work with Tyler to coordinate the install, primary person must be comfortable managing the server.
  - Roles and Responsibilities of the Primary Site Admin.
    - System Updates
    - Backups
    - Monitoring
  - Intra-Agency Agreement ~ identifies your acceptance to maintaining the server. May need to be signed by a Line Officer. Stay tuned.
  - System Security Plans/Risk Assessments/PIA ~ Tyler has created a template for the Region and will need to work with individual sites to fill out their portions of this 250 page security document. The Primary Site Admin will be named as the POC for audits.
- Purchase and install timeline ~ once Tyler receives the approval to purchase it will take about a month for the systems to come in. Current servers will stay in place until the new servers are ready to install. They will install as many as they can before fire season.

**Screen Saver Changes**

- 15 minute screen saver rollout soon ~ CIO is working on a 60 minute Extension waivers for all Dispatch Center computers.
  - Look for an email from Laurie Jakubowski asking to identify all computers in the Center including Expanded.
- Flight Following Computers are currently not allowed the 60 minute extensions. Tyler and Lori are working on an exception.

**GEMS-Government Enterprise Messaging System**

- What to expect ~ Rollout plan is July-September 2011.
- Pre-Fire Season Migration Plan ~ working to identify all dispatcher users to migrate before fire season.
- Email message will come from Laurie Jakubowski to identify those users.
- Changes/Training
  - NRU (April 4-8) will has MS Outlook training as well as Aglearn
  - Increase inbox size (5GB vs. 150MB)
  - Better IM capabilities
  - LiveMeeting integration
  - More Smartphone options
  - SharePoint for project collaboration

**LincPass and NEIS**

No new information regarding fingerprinting and background investigations. As of now, if your employee needs access to the FS network, regardless of duration of appointment, background investigations will be required. Stay tuned for more info from Lynn Johnson.

- New Regional Office Volunteer Coordinator, Joni Packard ~ in charge of imputing Cooperators and AD's into NEIS.
- Currently, GSAA's are not allowed to access the Content DB "O" Drive.

**Misc. IT Update**

- Expedited Software List ~ visit the CIO page for requesting new software. Technical Approval turnaround time is about 3 days.
- Expanded Dispatch Kits ~ 25 machines at the NRCC. Please work with Tyler or Patrick Murphy to identify your needs.

**0950 Northern Rockies Mobilization Guide ~ Ray Nelson****National MOB Guide published and available on the internet**

- Changes
  - In 2011, Radios will be S#s instead of E#s
  - Now you can make rosters for supply requests
  - Still have 3 4390 starter systems prepositioned in the NR (transferred to S#s)

**2011 Northern Rockies Mobe Guide**

- This winter Bob Gilman sent a letter out looking for input to the NR Mobe Guide. Deadline for input (through Zone Dispatch Centers): April 1<sup>st</sup>
- Phone # updates for Chapter 50 due: April 15<sup>th</sup>
- Ready to publish May 1<sup>st</sup>
  - Coding system remains line numbering format
  - Will be published electronically as a single pdf document with search capability and interactive table of contents.
  - Chapter 50 will not be published, but is available on request.
- Leads for 2011
  - Kim Thomas ~ Aircraft
  - Pam Jolly ~ Overhead
  - Barb Whiteman ~ Equipment
  - Ray Nelson ~ Crews
  - Julie Polutnik ~ Intelligence

**1020 NRCG Committee Reps Update****Operations ~ Mark Heppler****IMT Succession Planning**

- Short Team ~ 20 people
  - 10 Command & General Staff, 3-4 additional positions (GIS, Computer Specialist, etc) & 6 trainees
- Long Team ~ 39 people
  - 10 Command & General Staff, 17 negotiated positions, 6 trainees, & 6 S420/S520 mentorees

**Aviation ~ Kim Thomas**

- Looking for a new Aviation Committee Representative. Contact Kim Thomas for more information.

**Prevention ~ Mark Conway for Susan Hillstrom**

- Conference April 19-21, the Cost of Fire

**Training - Kitty Ortman for Andy Randall**

- Paul Fieldhouse, Regional Training Officer, retires in June.
- S-491 required for Center Managers
- Chris Johnson is the new SW Zone training Representative - replaces Kitty
- If your task book has expired you cannot extend it. You will need to open a new one.

**1050 Native American Crew Update ~ Robert La Plant, Chairperson**

- In 2004 NR went to T2IA Native American Crews.
  - 10 years ago NR had 100 Native American Crews
  - Today NR has only 40 Native American Crews (T2IA, Faller Modules, etc)
- Dispatchers: Support crews that are not self sufficient; route planning, transportation, lodging, etc.
  - NACs leaving the Reservation need to go with a contract bus
- **Remember your Native American Crews when ordering local resources.**
- Cost: Contract crews vs. NACs
  - Contract crew cost \$42 per person per hour = \$12,000 day.
  - Native American Crews are half that cost.

## 1125 Intel Updates ~ Julie Polutnik

GACC Running out of server space. Websites hosted on the NIFC server under the GACC webpage, please check your updated documents, links, etc. Need to free up server space.

## National Mobe guide SIT209 clarification

What to report and when?

- Large fires (100 acres timber and grass): Daily until it's contained, unless it falls into "no significant activity" than weekly on Thursdays.
- T1/T2 Teams: Daily until the fire is contained
- If the fire is managed for zone protection with partial or limited control (active for more than 72 hours): Daily until it's contained, unless it falls into "no significant activity"
- Significant commitment of National Resources (Aircraft, T1 crews, 5 or more engines, National Contract Equipment): Daily until the fire is contained

Timeframes ~ 20:00 or close of business MST

No change to SIT reports May - October

SIT 209 user guides are updated and loaded on the NR Intel site

- SIT 209 program added functionality to track complexes (names, costs, etc)
- Working on crossing data with WFDSS

No Intel training course this year, possible next spring when course material can be updated

## 1300 Contracting ~ Tim Murphy

### Agency Hosted Solicitations 2011

| <u>USFS</u>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                       | <u>DNRC</u>                                                                                                                                                                                                          | <u>BLM</u>                                                          |
|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Clerical Support</li> <li>• Tents</li> <li>• Rollover; Water Handling, Laundry</li> <li>• Heavy Equipment, Transports</li> <li>• Fallers</li> <li>• Mechanics</li> <li>• Type 3 Catering</li> <li>• Weed Wash</li> </ul> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Sack Lunches</li> <li>• Rental Vehicles</li> <li>• Portable Toilets &amp; Hand Washing Stations</li> <li>• Commo Trailers</li> <li>• Helicopter Support Trailers</li> </ul> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Type 3 Catering</li> </ul> |

## Water handling solicitations

- 3 Set asides ~ top of priority list
  - Small Business
  - Hub Zones (economically depressed area)
    - 11 Companies (28 engines)
    - 16 Companies (28 tenders)
    - 7 Companies (11 heavy equipment w/water)
  - SDVOBs (Service Disabled Veterans Operated Business)
    - 4 companies (9 engines)
    - 4 companies (5 tenders)

| <u>2011 Solicitation Plan</u>                                                                                                                                                          | <u>2011 National Solicitations</u>                                                                                                             | <u>2012 Solicitation Plan Proposals</u>                                                                                                                                                                                             |
|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Heavy Equipment</li> <li>• Transports</li> <li>• Faller</li> <li>• Weed Wash Clerical Support Tents</li> <li>• Mechanics w/Support</li> </ul> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Crew Carrier Busses</li> <li>• GIS</li> <li>• T2IA Crews</li> <li>• Communication Trailers</li> </ul> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Mobile Laundry exp. 2012</li> <li>• Road Grader (new!)</li> <li>• Gray Water Truck exp. 2011</li> <li>• ARFF Aircraft Rescue Firefighter trucks (?)</li> <li>• Medical Kits (?)</li> </ul> |

-National Crew Carriers solicitation is under protest. If this solicitation is not approved, will call last year's Commercial Value list

-GIS trailers under protest

-T2IA Crews Solicitation (5 year agreement) to be award by the end of March

| <u>Timeframes</u>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                 |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                           |
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| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Water handler               <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ 1/3/11 Issued email notification of pricing</li> <li>○ 2/25/11 End Rollover</li> </ul> </li> <li>• Dozers, Excavators, and Transports               <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ 1/10/11 Open solicitation</li> <li>○ 4/1/11 Close Solicitations</li> </ul> </li> </ul> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Fallers &amp; Mechanics               <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ 2/1/11 Open solicitation</li> <li>○ 3/15/11 Close Solicitations</li> </ul> </li> <li>• Weed Washer               <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ 2/28/11 Open solicitation</li> <li>○ 4/15/11 Close Solicitations</li> </ul> </li> </ul> |

## Training

40 MOUs in the NR ~ Community Colleges, Contractor Associations and Private individuals that provide Contractor training (physical fitness, WCT, task book admin and red carding) NRCG has contact info on website.

### **Heavy Equipment Boss & Technical Specialist Workshop (50 students per class)**

Looking for Hotshot crew members, Smokejumpers, Engine and Dozer bosses

- Castles Forestry Center ~ Lubrecht Experimental Forest
  - Send in your nominations by April 15
  - First Workshop: 4/11/11- 4/15/11
  - Second Workshop: 4/18/11- 4/22/11
  - \$750 Tuition, lodging & meals
  - \$350 Tuition only

### **MT-DNRC Contracting ~ Gary Oesterreich**

Contact Information: 406-444-5759 [goesterreich@mt.gov](mailto:goesterreich@mt.gov)

- DNRC Open 4 solicitations this year
  - Sack lunches
  - Vehicle rental
  - Portapotties & Hand washing Station
  - Helicopter ops support

### **BLM Contracting ~ Velvett Cummins**

Gray Water ~ No Change

Potable Water ~ No Change (exp. 2013)

Tender ~ No Change (exp. 2013)

T3 Catering ~ currently open for comments

- Solicitation should be up on the web end of March
- Closes April 29, 2011
- Award May 2011
- Will be a one year contract with 2 year options
- Once awarded, resource list will go to Tim Murphy for posting on the NRCG website

### **Heavy Equipment ~ Kevin Erickson**

#### **New solicitations**

- T1/2/3 Dozers
- 4 types of excavators
- Not looking for tractor plows
- T1/2/3 Transports

#### **New Heavy Equipment Inspection Requirements**

- Larger Fire extinguisher
- Personnel have fire shelter
- Trying to meet OSHA standards for Logging equipment - Dozers should have forestry package
- Not requiring heavy equipment to have radios on board

Contractor is responsible for meeting all State and Federal requirements and all costs related to transport including:

- Arranging transport
- Paying transport

Incident has the option to either release the transport or keep the transport with the equipment; the incident is then responsible for:

- Paying the daily rate for the dozer AND the daily or mileage rate for transport (whichever is higher)
- Retaining use of the transport separate from equipment, but transport must have existing agreement and RO must be issued.

Dozers are Best Value;

- Priority is dependent on attributes points; horsepower, winches, blade configuration
- Attributes not given priority points; ripper, grapple, 280hp or greater

Excavators are low bid.

- Attributes not given priority points; clamshell bucket, up/down blade, steep ground excavator (capable of working grades >45%)

No pre-season inspections until awards are made

#### **Tech Tip Interactive Sharing – Travis & Julia Emailing a ROSS Cognos Report**

{Adobe >Tools>Customize Toolbars>File Toolbar>Select Email} use to attach pdf documents to email

### **1400 Master Cooperative Fire Agreement Changes (aka Six Party Agreement) ~ Cathy Scofield (FS) & John Monzie (DNRC)**

Coop Fire Agreement completed and posted on NRCG website

- No significant changes, some terminology

- ID Statewide OP is complete
- NW border arrangement (US/Canada) will be worked on later this spring
- MT Statewide OP out by the end of the month
  - Response to Wildfires section has significant changes **::handout::**
    - Where are our local cooperative areas? What are processes for coordinating with partners?
    - Local Fire Supervisors have the answers.

#### Fire Protection in the NR (DNRC prospective) **::handout::**

- Montana Codes Annotated 76-13-104 to IA wildfires on land under state and private ownership.
- Landowner – 76-13-212 Duty of owner to protect against fire
- State 76-13-104 Protection of Land under state and private ownership
- County 7-33-Part 22. Rural Fire Protection

#### All Hazard Response

- Coop Agreement covers All-Hazard Incidents only under the authority of the Stafford Act; State partners can participate in an all hazard response, as can local government, if they have an agreement with the State to do so.
- MT Emergency Operations Plan details how State employees can respond to emergencies declared by the Governor.

#### MT-DNRC Aircraft ~ Emergency Response

DNRC Aircraft are able to assist in local emergencies but it must be a life threatening incident.

Dispatchers review Appendix S – Mobilization of State Aircraft (operated as public aircraft) to other than State Incidents

#### 1450 Filling NR Coordination Center Manager Position ~ Bill Avey

- Announcement closed December 31, 2010
- According to ASC, no one qualified for the 0401 Cert
- Requesting a manual qualification review
- 120 day detail may be needed

#### 1510 Human Resource Specialist Program and Critical Incident Stress Management (CISM) ~ Jan Everett

HRSP and CISM ~ developed to assist employees involved in an “incident within an incident.”

- HR Specialist ~ Liaison between incident management team and the Critical Incident Resource.
- Critical Incident Stress Management Teams ~ Nationally Sponsored Team dispatched to resolve HR related critical issues at the lowest level possible. **Not to be dispatched sooner than 24 hours** after the critical incident.

Critical Incident Stress Peer Teams developed to establish trust and increase effectiveness of CISM Teams

- Regions with established Peer Teams ~ Northern Rockies, Northwest, and Great Basin
- Peer Teams being developed ~ California, Southern and Southwest

#### 1525 ROSS Production & Supplies ~ Ray Nelson, Bonnie Resner

ICBSR Incident Cache Business System Reengineered ~ now dispatchers can initiate supply orders in ROSS and place those orders into the Cache system or give the S#s to the buying team and purchase people.

- Dispatchers: read the memo from Tory Henderson dated February 25<sup>th</sup> regarding the ROSS/ICBSR interface.
- 2.13 Release Notes; New functionality in ROSS, pay close attention to the Supply section
- User Orientation and Training for ICBS ~ available on the ICBS website, understand how the cache system operates.

#### 1610 Sally Estes ~ 2011 Excellence in Dispatch Award recipient Wendy Dougherty ~ Coeur D’Alene Dispatch

*“Wendy’s performance as a lead initial attack dispatcher is essential to the successful accomplishments in our Fire and Aviation program; directing the safe and efficient mobilization of emergency resources. She has readily embraced new technologies, changes, and incorporating them into more efficient dispatch operations. Her skills and knowledge contributed to the ongoing advancements of other’s skills and experience.”*

#### 1615 ROSS Cognos ~ Julie Polutnik

ROSS/WildCAD Interface problems concerning data consistency and security ~ currently on the back burner

A Potential WFDDS/ROSS interface is being worked on for the future.

ROSS 2.14 out in the Spring 2011

ROSS 3.0 out the end of 2012

ROSS Change Board Meeting last April ~ approved changes listed below, to view the complete list of changes visit the ROSS website

- Approved adding contact tab to Aircraft & Equipment
- Edit incident description
- ROSS and WFDSS interface
- Email dispatch when vendor updates status
- Allow incidents be filtered on Tactical Aviation
- ROSS Historical Data Reports

Stood up ROSS Reports Management Board

- Looking at standardizing things i.e. naming conventions
- Looking at taking over Cognos Query Studio training
- GACC Business Leads under Management Board are your POC for finding forms and submitting change requests. They will be receiving input from dispatchers regarding what reports need to be in ROSS and what needs to be changed.

Query Studio Training in Boise end of March 2011

- Learn analytical reporting ~ how to build custom reports, how to modify existing community forms.

## MARCH 9, 2011

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### 0805 – MT-MDC Center Manager Detailer needed - Laura Ward

Kit Kemsley took a position in Colorado and will be leaving on May 9<sup>th</sup>. Lolo is seeking a 120 day detailer to shadow Kit before she leaves and will be filling the position ASAP. If you are interested, contact Laura Ward or Chris Acceturo.

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### 0810 – WildCAD Update - Linda Lowe

#### Current Updates

- Training for System Admins
  - [www.wildcad.support.net](http://www.wildcad.support.net) to signup
  - Refresher Course April 5<sup>th</sup>
  - New System Administrator at existing sites training, March 15-16, March 28-29, or March 30-31
  - No tuition, only Travel cost
- 8 New Centers online with WildCAD (Salem OR, Eugene OR, NWCC, EACC, 1 WI center, 2 FL centers, and 1 TX center)
- WildCAD Conference
  - WildCAD Programmer will rollout enhancements in April
  - Group discussion regarding desired enhancements
  - Kit will distribute this year's enhancements
  - Release will be available after the April Conference
  - "How-to Setup new WildCAD enhancements" video will be available
  - Refresher day before the conference
- WildCAD Business Plan on the website
- User committee charter on the website
  - New NR User Rep – Kara Stringer
- NAS Server
  - BLM adopting NAS server? No news
  - 3 NR Centers are Beta Testing NAS Servers now (Missoula, Kalispell, Great Falls)
- User Guides for Dispatchers and System Admins is being updated and will be posted on the website
- Tech Support contract expires June 14<sup>th</sup>. Will be extended 1 year. Working on a 5 year contract with the WO.
- BLM issue paper went out to the BLM WO in March to make a final decision on CAD system.
  - In August, the NWCG was asked by the IT leads for WO Fire Management to accept WildCAD as the Federal CAD system until a decision can be met.
  - NPS has been developing an interagency CAD system
    - NWCG reviewed the statement of work and found it did not address most needs of wildland fire dispatch
    - NPS was informed that they need to address all interagency needs if their CAD system is to be considered for all federal dispatching needs.
  - WildCAD will continue to be used for wildland fire dispatch.

#### Near Future

- Working on extending WildCAD contract 1 more year. With the intent of extending it 2 more years after that.
  - ASC was supposed to put 5 COs in Boise to handle National Fire Systems Contracts. Only have two.
  - 5 year (\$2M) contract exceeded authority
  - Working on a long-term National Contract with the FS as the hosting agency.
- Cross Streets in WildCAD - GeoData Technology ~ gives you the ability to put in an address and generate a response.
  - Within the next month all region data should be available
  - If you want the Cross Street Data, Call Bighorn and request your data
  - Costs \$300-\$400
- WildGACC
  - Specific to GACC needs
  - Incident dispatch locations incorporate a road layer into WildCAD program and overlay a grid (5 mile block). Bighorn does a calculation and the closest resource is identified.
  - Won't be operational until the data for Cross Streets is available

#### Long Term

- Another enhancement package available April 2012
- IRWiN addresses WildCAD and thirteen other interagency programs' software needs.
  - Agencies agree WildCAD is here to stay (maybe 3 years?)
  - Questions asked: Do we build a contract for WildCAD or Purchase from vendor?
  - 107 dispatch centers currently use WildCAD.
  - Department of Wildland Fire created by the WO 3 years ago ~ coordinates w/ all agencies for incident reporting
  - Working on doing a WildCAD refresh so it meets IT security requirements of both agencies

- Will allow it to interface with other programs (ROSS, WFDSS, VIPR, etc)
  - When IRWiN is staffed they will begin the BPR process – preparing to go out for bid
- WildCAD enhancement: Holding off on revamp for Contract Tab due to FOIA requests

### 0910 WildCAD Demo – Judy Heintz/Kit Kemsley

- WildShare > Available vs. Committed Resources Data
- Customizing Reports under the Fires Tab > Initial Reports & Fire Reports > Drop down lists
- WildCAD Pager Email
- Phone directory function

### 1005 Davis Fire Impact on HDC – Mark Heppler

- Toxic mold forced HDC to abandon building
- Radio operation went to the DNRC land office and dispatch operations went to the air tanker base
- Radio access with very limited FS network was a problem. Tyler got some Air cards but service was spotty.
- Judy Dunham came in and set up expanded dispatch at SO.

**What was learned: Develop a Plan for each level of interruption (a few hours, a few days, and a few months)**

**What do you do when disruption is long-term? You can't be a guest for too long!**

- Need space, computers, interagency radios, stable FS network
- Call your IT Specialist early!!
- Need to work with neighbors
- Need to have access to all networks

#### Things HDC will be working on

- Linking radio systems with our neighbors
- Granting ROSS privileges to our neighbors
- Having WildCAD servers with clients at our neighbor's location.

Comm. Unit Leader may be able to help

Hand things off to a neighbor

- SAFETY! Emergency Plan in case of emergency evacuation (fire, bomb threat, weather event, etc)

### 1040 Predictive Services Update ~ Mike Kreyenhagen

#### Influencing Factors for this year's fire season

- ENSO/PDO states very negative right now
- Wet fall
- record snow packs
- anticipating a late, cool wet spring
- probably won't see preseason (late April, early May) fire season, means heavy grass fuels for this summer

|                                                                                                                                                     |                                                                                                                                                                                                                    |
|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <b>Summer</b><br>Looks like a neutral summer with not a lot of lightning<br>Relatively Warm, relatively dry but not a lot of convection             | <b>Fall/Winter</b><br>Model predictions show another wet fall and late winter for 2011                                                                                                                             |
| <b>Precipitation</b><br>NR drought is "basically done"<br>Record snow/water equivalents at many Snotel sites<br>Drought monitor: mostly SE/SW areas | <b>Thoughts on 2010-2011 ~ 2011 looks a lot like 2009-2010</b><br>We now have 3 years of "normal" or better precipitation<br>Vegetation is not stressed<br>Predicting 60-70K acres unless there are any odd events |

#### Areas of Concern:

Latest short and long term data suggest that the potential for below normal conditions outweigh the potential for normal to above normal conditions in these areas.

### 1055 NICC Update ~ Bill Fletcher

No major changes to National MOB guide

Name changes: Fire RAWS changed to Incident RAWS

Smoke monitoring units will be hosted by RAWS and will be supply items

#### Air Tankers

- 18 heavy air tankers available
- Currently have 3 on duty, gaining 2 every two weeks with all 18 on duty by mid June
- As early as 2012 may increase fleet to 26 with new aircraft
- AMD has contracted for 3 CL-215s, 1 is BIA, two are BLM in Alaska ( 1 being call when needed)

#### Fixed wing

- 17 ASM/Lead plane platforms nationally (13 FS, 4 BLM)
- NICC has two IR aircraft
- Large jet contract (mid June to mid-Sept) out for solicitation for a 60+ passenger jet
  - Potentially Awarded and operational by the end of July

**Helicopters**

- 26 Type 1s
- 41 Type 2s (33 are standard and 8 are limited)

**Caterer/Shower no changes**

- 9 small shower units – 4-11 stalls each (varies) for limited access incidents or for long duration that won't go above 125-150 personnel. Spread out across the country.
- They will support long-term T3 incidents depending on availability.

**Supply**

Interface between ROSS and ICBS went live in December. Found 41 issues, many have been fixed.

- Identified 8 priorities specific to mobilizing telecommunication supply items

**Interagency Dispatch Improvement Project ~ IDOPP**

Pilot Project has been initiated in the SW and California, Looking at business, standardization, and organization issues across dispatch centers. Looking at common elements and missions; trying to find ways to optimize operations.

3 Phases: Identify common elements, develop approaches, and develop a template to use.

**All Hazard Update ~ After the Oil Spill Response**

DOI developing an all hazard response guide patterned after the 310-1

Proposed 90 position codes to be added to ROSS

28 positions WILL BE added to ROSS, IQCS, and AD Pay Plan that are All Hazard specific

Organization Information System out mid-April to manage Unit Identifiers.

**1300 Fire Business ~ Tracey Nimlos/Pam Okon****Pay Plans**

- FS Pay Plan April 1<sup>st</sup>
- DOI soon to follow
- Still debating a rate change to coincide with the FS Pay Plan rate increase in 2009
- MT Pay Plan Frozen since 2008 ~ No changes

Changes to the Interagency Incident Business Management Handbook ~ Published April 1st

- Chapter 10 Personnel
  - IDL has changed calling Casuals to ADs
  - EFFs travel can be paid to TEAM meetings
- Chapter 20 Acquisition ~ Rate are still in effect from 2009, they will not change until 2012
- Chapter 30 Property Management ~ T3 – T5 incidents, units must designate an official for approving purchases on replacement orders
- Chapter 40 Business Coordination ~ Some wording
- Chapter 50 Cooperatives ~ MTDNRC added a fully operated double shift rate for local govt
- Chapter 70 Claims ~ No Changes
- Chapter 80 Cost Accounting ~ adjustments to rates in the quick cost calculator

**Travel**

- No travel reimbursement changes on FS Pay Plan
- Regular Government employee should prepare a limited open auth with no accounting info
- Baggage fees can be paid on Purchase Card if no Travel Card available

**Local Government**

Fully operated means equipment must have agency provided operators that are paid through agency payroll – not EFFs.

**Projects vs. Fire Assignments**

You cannot send a Non-Federal employee (ADs, State, and Local Gov't) to Federal Agency projects. No way to bill.

Other Federal Agency employees sent to projects must be covered under a pre-arranged Agreement.

IIBM Handbook ONLY APPLIES to fire assignments and does not apply to projects. (WFPR and WFHF)

Federal employees are only covered by Presidential declared State of Emergency, NOT by Governor declared State of Emergency

**Contract Equipment**

Contract Payments go to Agency's Payment office that is hosting the fire. (Except for National Contracts)

**Misc. Items**

Changes to fire codes - ASC will call Region Incident Business Coordinator for approval. (Tracey) Give her a call head of time

OWCP - No changes. VTC workshop April 26<sup>th</sup>, Wanda Chavez (Workers Comp) will be in on the meeting.

Resource Orders are required for payment. WildCAD is not approved documentation for payment.



DNRC Kitchens and Aviation make sure Appendix S is completed!! FOIAs have been requested every time.

## 1445 Caterers and Showers – Mary Fields

### Food Contracts

- 150+ employees for 72 hours or more requires a National Caterer. **Word of Caution: If you believe you're reaching the limit, prepare to call in a National Caterer.** National Caterers & Showers do not get availability. They get a \$12,000.00 guaranteed rate. They watch the numbers very closely and have made claims in 2010. \$12,000 = approx. 200 people it does not apply for the first and last day.
- R1 is putting out a T3 Kitchen solicitation.
- No problem using State Kitchens on State Incident. If incident moves to Federal and crosses the 150 people limit, a National Caterer must be called in.
- T3 Kitchen meals requirements are the same as national contracts (quality, quantity). Keep the same standards in mind when ordering from restaurants. When ordering from restaurants, it's a good idea to pull up the requirements from the national contracts because restaurants are not used to providing portions necessary.

### Shower Units

- Come with potable water trucks; fully equipped and inspected. You can use the potable water trucks to service the camp. No need to assign an additional E#.
- Small showers are available 8 heads or less, no requirement as far as size of incident. All showers need to be called through National Contracts because of guaranteed daily rate.

## 1510 – NR Dispatch Steering Committee Picture slideshow of your pets for next year! Send to Mark.

Kim Thomas, Mark Heppler, Alyssa Stewart, Tony Lubke, Wendy Dougherty, Amanda Hamman, Dennis Sheridan, Carol Bienhold  
Mark will take over for Kim as Chair and Carol will take over for Mark as Co-Chair, new recruits rotate in, in March.

Open Task Orders: had nine, closed three!

- MTDC Stress Study for dispatchers ~ as of 3/11/11 contract has been approved with UM to work on the project
- IMT User Role in ROSS ~ as of 7/10/10 survey Teams to get a better grasp of needs in ROSS
- IQS importing in ROSS ~ with the availability of IQS web this project may be closed - more info to come
- Initial Attack Management System ~ not a high priority - approach again in a couple years
- Ordering of supplies in ROSS ~ With ICBSR and user guide, things will get better - might close by the end of the year
- Create a GIS layer incorporated into AFF ~ NR zone dispatch boundaries, contact info and polygons – working, stay tuned

For new Task Orders, contact anyone from the Steering Committee

## 1525 IMT Updates ~ Pam Jolly/Mark Heppler

### 2 new ICs

- Stan Benes
- Mark Grant until Shawn Pierson gets signed on

### Teams succession planning meeting discussions

- New Team configurations
- All fed agencies have the same cost accounting procedures
- Did not include members of the dispatch world or finance world

### Teams Feedback

- Still receiving feedback
- New in depth survey online, the more input the better!

New rotation schedules have been posted

No anticipated holes on the Teams roster

**Thursday March 10, 2011**

## 0800 Dispatch Efficiency Work Group ~ Judy Heintz

DEW Group meets in Boise at least once a year; is made up of Center Managers, IA Dispatchers, etc. (2-3 local, 2-3 GACCs, 1 NICC)

- Next Meeting is scheduled for 3<sup>rd</sup> week of May
- Currently has 2 vacancies, requires a 2 year commitment
- DEW works on dispatch issues that come out of the National Coordinator's meeting, get your comments to Kim or Julie
- Have been working on...
  - ROSS Operating Manual
  - Dispatch Job Aids

- IDIP project (sort out dispatcher tasks related to group customer base (Timber, Fire, Recreation, LE)
- ROSS changes i.e. unit of issue

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## 0830 NIRSC Update – Al Karnowski, Nation Interagency Incident Communication Division

### Geographic Area Reps

- Establish long term relationship between the GACC, the Zones, and the Communication's Duty Office
- Provide COMC Support
- Provide National Interagency Incident Communication Division updates
- Assist in updating the National Interagency Aviation Frequency Guide
  - Freq at call in sites (fixed base stations FS/BLM) and contact info
- Available to assist the GACC in updating the communication portion of the GACC MOB Guide

### T3 Support

- Filling Frequency Requests
  - No communications personnel (COMT/COML) assigned
    - Incident order all frequencies through dispatch process (A/A A/G, Deck, and Tactical)
    - Dispatch places orders up through ROSS
    - Aircraft Resource Order
  - Communication personnel are involved providing service for the incident
    - Aviation freqs are the only requests placed on resource orders
    - Any additional (ground tactical) freq will be coordinated directly between the COML/COMT assigned
- Providing Equipment Resources
  - No communications personnel (COMT/COML) assigned
    - Equip that doesn't require setup (i.e. hand held radios) can be ordered and filled as long as there is a name to put on the order as the responsible party
    - Equipment that does require setup **will need a NWCG qualified person** (COML) to set up and take down.
  - Communication personnel are involved providing service for the incident
    - Business as usual
    - All equip requests will come from the COML/COMT assigned to the incident

### AM Frequency Management for Incident

- Each freq request may take 2 to 12 hours to fill, due to the FAA process required to identify and engineer a frequency for a geographic area
- Temporary AM frequencies are no longer available from NIICD. All AM freq will come from the FAA
- Order early...If there is any indication that IA or extended IA will go long, GACCs must call the CDO and request assignment to get an FAA assigned freq in place before the transition takes place.

### FM Frequency Management for Incident

- NIICD A/G freq are used as IA "fill-in" freq throughout the IA zones
- NIICD will (in some cases) not be able to fill A/G requests with NIICD assigned freqs due to potential interference. FM A/G frequencies requests be filled with WO spectrum
- Requested A/G will be filled with 2 to 6 hour time frame.

### AM & FM Frequency Management for IA

- Process involves both FS and DOI freq managers as well as the FAA to determine assignment and what changes may be needed
- Freq Managers and the FAA provides info to the CDO
- CDO finalizes the maps and forwards them to the freq managers and GACCs for distribution
- Draft IA maps to frequency managers for review – Dec 15, 2011
- Draft IA maps back to the CDO ready for publication – Dec 27, 2011
- Final IA maps to GACC and freq managers and Statewide Interoperability Coordinators – Jan 2, 2012
- We will be late this year due to results from the Dec NIISWS meeting

### AM Frequency Management for Air Tanker Bases

- 123.975 ATB assignment
- Temp FAA assignment must be renewed each year
- Airtanker base freqs had not been renewed from 2004 to 2010. There may still be changes even this year.
- 1 ATB in Southern Area and 5 ATBs in the Southwest Area have frequency changes

### ROSS/ICBSR interface issue

- New ROSS/ICBSR went live Dec 7, 2010
- All NIRSC Radio equip will be ordered as S#s
- Missing and/or invalid charge codes will delay request being filled

- Radio equipment will be ordered the same as before - through the GACC and then through NICC

Call either the Communications Duty Officer with your questions at (208) 387-5644 or [nifccdo@fs.fed.us](mailto:nifccdo@fs.fed.us)  
Or your Northern Rockies Area NIICD Representative Jose Lopez 208-387-5858 [joselopez@fs.fed.us](mailto:joselopez@fs.fed.us)

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## 1015 IMS Update ~ Mary Jo Lommen

### Training

- Medical Support training was February ~ 11 new people attended but lost 11 people
  - Policy was adopted: If you can't attend training within a 2 year period, you will be expected to step aside for new people. Clarification: If training is not attended as required by position, Manager and Assistant every year, Technician every other year, will be asked to step down until that training is accomplished. Would have to go through the selection process the same as everyone else. Also, if not available for assignments or turn down assignments within a two year period will have same requirement. This can all be mitigated with the Steering/Qualification Committee.
  - Currently 90 people in the program
- First Responders
  - Forest Service is encouraging more First Responders trained at the crew level (all areas)
  - Wilderness First Responder is not the same. It does not teach transport, mobilization, etc
  - State training curriculum for First Responders is a licensing program.
  - Possible First Responder courses hosted by the NRTC in the future

### T3 Incidents

- Dispatchers: encourage your IC3s to think about providing medical support (evacuation, preplanning, etc)

### Availability

- List coming out soon ~ Currently have 5 paramedics
- Medical Kits ~ MJ has 18 kits built, Line packs go with IMSs, if additional equipment is hard to find, call MJ
- Recommendation: If you need something hard to find, purchase them for your units and have them ready when you need it

Ambulances must be state licensed and must stay in state unless an agreement is in place to cross state lines.

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## 1040 Red Attack / Grey Attack ~ Wally Bennett

**Northwest Compact:** an agreement between US States (AK, WA, OR, ID, & MT) and CN providences (BC, AB, SK, NT, & YT)

- Type 1 teams
- Resources commit to 14 day assignments (conditional)

## Fire Behavior in Mountain Pine Beetle Stands – A New Perspective “The Standing Grey Fuel Complex” Presentation

### Behavior observed

- Teams observed very frequent spotting from the grey stage stands. This makes receptor fuel beds a key concern during suppression operations. This data was gathered from several observations on one fire. We need to collect and share more information on the “new” fire environments.
- Fuel moisture drop significantly after tree is attacked. Recently attacked trees are still green
- Red needle moisture content track with 1000 hour fuels
- Increased fire severity with dead and down grey snags with regeneration

### Expect

- More convection increased spotting
- Receptive fuel beds
- Rapids rates of spread
- snags

### LCES

- Maximum field of view, far beyond normal
- Large fire brands
- One torching tree = spots up to ¼ miles away; in all direction with negligible winds.
- Fires go big quickly so IA is essential ~ Air support and look outs are key
- Think large scale
- Downfall is a large component
- Safety zones must be increased because of fire intensity

### Ordering process

Orders do not come through ROSS (typically).

- MT orders go through NRCC.
- Idaho orders go through Coeur D'Alene office

You will receive a faxed or emailed copy of Northwest Compact Resource Order, fill the order like normal  
Billing is between the State and the Providences – NOT federal.

### **1250 Smokejumpers Presentation ~ Sarah Doehring / Dan Cottrell**

- Call jumpers for special requests - IA, IC3s, etc. ~ Response time is fast, they are self sufficient for up to 2-3 days
- NR jumpers are cross-training into square Ram -Air parachutes to increase parameters of jumping capabilities

### **1310 Agency Aviation Panel – Chuck Brenton (DNRC) / Allen Edmonds (BLM) / Maggie Doherty (FS)**

#### **Allen Edmonds (BLM)**

#### **BLM National 2011 Aircraft Configuration**

- 7 Smokejumper aircraft
- 2 Water scoopers
- 9 ATGS aircraft
- 4 ASM aircraft
- 9 T2 Helicopters
- 14 T3 Helicopter
- 4 Utility Light Fixed Wing aircraft
- SEATs ~ no exclusive use this year, the contract has been terminated until next year
  - Approx. 74 available on call aircraft (Queen Bee, Twin Falls, New Frontier, Aerial Timbers)

#### **Personnel changes**

- Division of Aviation Chief, Kevin Hamilton, will be retiring at the end of March, replacement expected before start of season
- Aviation Safety Program Manager, Joe Bates, retired in December and they will combine his position with the Aviation Training Program Manager position left vacant when the Glen Claypool moved into the SEAT manager position.
- New Helicopter Program Manager, Brian Bitting
- New Flight Operations Manager, Rusty Warbis

#### **AMS**

Last year, partially implemented the AMS system...had lots of problems.

This year the aircraft manager will now give the signed hardcopy to the contractor who will do the data entry into the AMS system

#### **Usage Overview**

- Flew 286 hours last year
- 93 air attacks
- 127 Helicopter
- 66 SEATs
- Down 52%

#### **Montana 2011 Aircraft Configuration**

- ATGS contract starts June 1st
  - moved from Lewistown to Billings
  - Lewistown will still maintain their T3 helicopter, contract is out and should be awarded in the next 30 days
    - Starts May 1<sup>st</sup> in Arizona and will transition up to MT by July 25th
  - Miles City has exclusive use T3 helicopter, contract closing at the end of the March
    - Starts June 15th

#### **Plans and Guides**

- Update complete on the Montana Aircrew Orientation Guide
- Air Tanker User Guide for ICs and Dispatchers, update out this year before the start of season

#### **Cooperator Aircraft**

- On schedule for May
- Expecting certification by the end of June
- Lots of FOIAs last year ~ remember to complete APPENDIX S (Public/Civil Aircraft Utilization Dispatch Work Sheet).
  - Submit to the NRCC and maintain files locally for 3 years.

#### **Maggie Doherty (FS)**

#### **National Contracts**

- Large Fire Support ~ good for a couple more years
- Call When Needed ~ December solicitation, will be awarded this spring
- IA33 awarded last year ~ all have mandatory availability of 120 days
- Air tankers ~ no changes.
- ASM configuration ~ 13 leads, can support 2 ASMs in R1

- Smokejumper aircraft solicitation out this year ~ awards have not been announced
  - Contract awards for R1 are West Yellowstone and Grangeville 115 and 90 days

### Evaluating night operations

- FS approved a policy on night operations to create future opportunities.
- No plans to implement nationally.

Last Year SAFECOM survey went out nationally ~ top three items identified in the survey:

- Training and promotion of SAFECOM not effective
- Maintenance reporting not being reported
- Fear of repercussion

### Incident, Accidents, Hazards

- Accident free on helicopter side
- Forest health fatalities (Forest Health flew 3000-5000 hours last year)
  - Iron 44/Carson accident ~ board of review findings came out March 9<sup>th</sup>.
    - Lessons learned? Stricter requirements for public use.
  - Willow Creek rappel accident ~ Program analysis is out

### 2011 Rappel Program

Shenango rappel crew (only medium size crew in the region) has submitted their letters, will bring crew up for proficiency, equipment and utilization. All training will be in Region 6.

### Regional Update

- R1/R4s Douglas-DC3 are down while they are receiving necessary updates.
  - What is the future of the Dougs? Risk assessment to identify the systems, hazards, mitigations
    - Currently working on replacements (temporary, short-term) while the Doug's are down

### Air Attack

Tom Bates took an FMO position ~ ATGS FS position will be advertised (located on the Clr/Nez)

Refresher training for air attack coming up ~ trainees need to go as often as possible

### Cooperator Aircraft

May timeframes: approval process, pilot safety briefs, and the coordination with state inspections

- Letter of authorization comes out from AMD as well as locally
- Emphasized using the Appendix S, copies to Kim or forward Alyssa for collection

## 1415 – NRCC Updates

### Crews

Priorities ~ going out of area decisions are reserved for coordinators, final decisions made by Bob Gilman

In 2010 the number of people on a T1 Hotshot crew had increased to 25 (according to the red book) 2011 has gone back to 18-20

2 Contract Crews available (Greybacks)

As the season draws near, please update your crew status

NICC could probably do 2 jet loads

This year MIDC will host a T2 IA crew. It will be in regular rotation. This will be an agency crew and will be called before contract crews. There is a draft plan that will be sent out. The intent is to go outside the GACC.

### Overhead

National Wildland Federal Fire Policy

- Typing coming down for modules, driven by the Forest Service, want the ability to put together ad hoc fire modules.

Lewis & Clark and Selway modules staffed for 2011.

Yellowstone will not be staffed but is not going away.

Expiring qualifications ~ due to 3 years of slow fire seasons, Pam ended 2010 with 5 priority lists.

- List submitted by regional managers from each agency
- FS get your priority list submissions to Kitty by mid June and she will take it to Bill Avey.

### Staffing

Assistant Intel position GS-8/9 18/8 vacant

GS-7 13/13 vacant

Clerk position vacant

### Aircraft

Please fill out Appendix S! Send copies to NRCC/Kim & Alyssa

Frequency guide updates due by the end of March. A/A Freq maps have not come out yet.

Initiate a NOTAM(O) (Other) for long duration/smoke producing fires in wilderness areas to reduce the smoke reports from general aviation and ATCs.

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**BIN ITEMS**

WMT IA Frequency Zones boundaries review

Northern Rockies crew rotation/OGA

ROSS/ICBS default job code, roster s# (e.g. cache van)

Additional fees for baggage vs. weight

**Northern Rockies Dispatcher Workshop**  
**March 8-10, 2011**  
**Northern Rockies Training Center**  
**ATTENDANCE SHEET**

**National Interagency Coordination Center**

Bill Fletcher

**FS - Regional Office**

Kitty Ortman

**Northern Rockies Coordination Center**

Kim Thomas

Pam Jolly

Julie Polutnik

Barb Whiteman

Ray Nelson

**Missoula Interagency Dispatch Center**

Kit Kemsley

Joy Williamson

Shauna Smith

Chris Accetturo

Dave Emery

Kristine Salmonson

Roy Robinson

Kerry Cassidy

Cobey Williamson

**Plains Dispatch Center**

Maria Helterline

Bobbie Bennett

**Kalispell Interagency Dispatch Center**

Traci Goicoechea

Anthony Butterfield

Carol Bienhold

**Kootenai Interagency Dispatch Center**

Rick Morrill

Jeni Ramondelli

Jeff Stevenson

**Bitterroot Dispatch Center**

Tony Lubke

Brett Malingo

**Dillon Interagency Dispatch Center**

Judy Heintz

**Bozeman Interagency Dispatch Center**

Gaylen Yeates

Cristi Heaney

Dennis Sheridan

**Yellowstone (NPS)**

Edwin Folts

**Helena Interagency Dispatch Center**

Donna Hawkins

Rosanna Finley

Ann Speer

**Great Falls Interagency Dispatch Center**

Mark Conway

Sheila Weatherwax

Travis Collier

**Miles City Interagency Dispatch Center**

Kat Morici

**Lewistown Interagency Dispatch Center**

Jay McAllister

**Grangeville Interagency Dispatch Center**

Amanda Hamman

**Coeur d'Alene Interagency Dispatch Center**

Sally Estes

Gary Weber

Julia Figgins

Wendy Dougherty

**North Dakota Interagency Dispatch Center**

Andrew Randall

**Confederated Salish and Kootenai Tribes**

Buttercup Clairmont

Joe Couture

**Blackfeet Agency**

March Annonx

Tahnee Hall

Meri Lane Bear

**Fort Belknap Agency**

Trisha Black Crow

**Crow Agency**

Twilla House

**Montana DNRC**

Pam Okon - MTDNRC

Kathy Tams - Lincoln

**Billings Interagency Dispatch Center**

Mark Heppler

Angeline Pollock

